AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated A nucleic acid molecule comprising:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the monocyte-chemoattractant-protein-1 (MCP-1) the protein encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of EMBL Accession No. Y18933 or a nucleic acid sequence which hybridizes to said MCP-1 nucleic acid sequence under stringent conditions or fragments, derivatives or alleic variants of said sequence which encode a protein having the biological activity of the monocyle-chemoattractant-protein-1 (MCP-1) and an amino acid sequence indentity of at least 80% to the amino acid sequence encoded y the EMBL clone Y18933; and

(b) a hypersensitive region, wherein said hypersensitive region is a

3`-DHSR comprising a nucleic acid molecule which is located 2430 bp to 3019 bp downstream of the transcriptional start site of the MCP-1 gene, or

a 3'-DHSR comprising a nucleic acid molecule which is located 1550 bp to 1749 downstream of the transcriptional start site of the MCP-1 gene, or

a 3'-DHSR comprising a nucleic acid molecule which is located 750 bp to 899 bp downstream of the transcriptional start site of the MCP-1 gene, or

a 5'-DHSR comprising a nucleic acid molecule which is located 500 bp to 251 bp upstream of the transcriptional start site of the MCP-1 gene, or

a 5'-DHSR comprising a nucleic acid molecule which is located 1300 bp to 1001 bp upstream of the transcriptional start site of the MCP-1 gene, or
a 5'-DHSR comprising a nucleic acid molecule which is located 5050 bp to 4751 bp upstream of the transcriptional start site of the MCP-1 gene, or
a S1 hypersensitive site comprising a nucleic acid molecule which is located in the 1st intron (+180 - +350) of the MCP-1 gene.

2. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the 3'-DHSR comprises SEQ ID NO:1 ~~the nucleic acid sequence from pos. +2430 to +3019 as depicted in Figure 6~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein the 3'-DHSR comprises SEQ ID NO:8 ~~the nucleic acid sequence GGAAGGTTGAGTCAAGGATT~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein the 3'-DHSR comprises the nucleic acid sequence TGAGTCA.

5. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the hypersensitivity sequences (b) contain mutations wherein the identity of the mutated sequence with the original sequence is at least 40% ~~resulting in a modified DNAse I hypersensitivity, S1 hypersensitivity and/or altered interaction with transcription factors~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 20 ~~5~~, wherein the transcription factor is AP-1, SP1, NF-IL6 or NF-kappa B.

7. (Previously Presented) A recombinant vector containing the nucleic acid molecular of claim 1.

8. (Original) The recombinant vector of claim 7 wherein the nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to regulatory elements allowing transcription and synthesis of a translatable RNA in prokaryotic and/or eukaryotic host cells.

9. (Previously Presented) A recombinant host cell which contains a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.

10. (Original) The recombinant host cell of claim 9, which is a mammalian cell, a bacterial cell, an insect cell or a yeast cell.

11. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound which is capable of regulating the expression of the MCP-1 gene by directly or indirectly interacting with the nucleic acid sequence (b) of claim 1.

12. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 11, wherein the compound is a protein capable of interacting with a transcription factor, in particular AP-1, or a nucleic acid molecule encoding said protein.

13. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12, wherein the compound is *jun, fra-1, ATF-2, jab-1, fra-2* or a mixture thereof.

14. (Withdrawn) A method for the treatment of atherosclerosis or cancer comprising administering an effective amount of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 to a patient in need of such treatment.

15. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 14, wherein the cancer is a cervical carcinoma.

16. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the monocyte-chemoattractant-protein-1 (MCP-1), the protein encoded by the

nucleic acid sequence of EMBL Accession No. Y18933 or a nucleic acid sequence which hybridize to said MCP-1 nucleic acid sequence under stringent conditions or fragments, derivatives or alleic variants of said sequence which encode a protein having the biological activity of the monocyte-chemoattractant-protein-1 (MCP-1) and an amino acid sequence identity of at least 80% to the amino acid sequence encoded by the EMBL clone (Y18933); and

(b) at least one hypersensitive region, wherein said hypersensitive region is a 5′-DHSR selected from the group consisting of SEQ. ID. NOs: 4, 5, 6 or a 3′-DHSR selected from the group consisting of SEQ. ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 8 or the nucleic acid molecule TGATCA.

17. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 16 wherein the hypersensitive sequences (b) contain mutations wherein the identity of the mutated sequence with the original sequence is at least 40%.

18. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 16, wherein the hypersensitivity sequences (b) contain a binding site for a transcription factor.

19. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 18, wherein the transcription factor is AP-1, SP1, NF-IL6 or NF-kappa B.

20. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the hypersensitivity sequences (b) contain a binding site for a transcription factor.